

The importance of Open Access research publishing in developing countries


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Stellenbosch University
Open Access Seminar 2011





A publisher's perspective

publishing = strategy

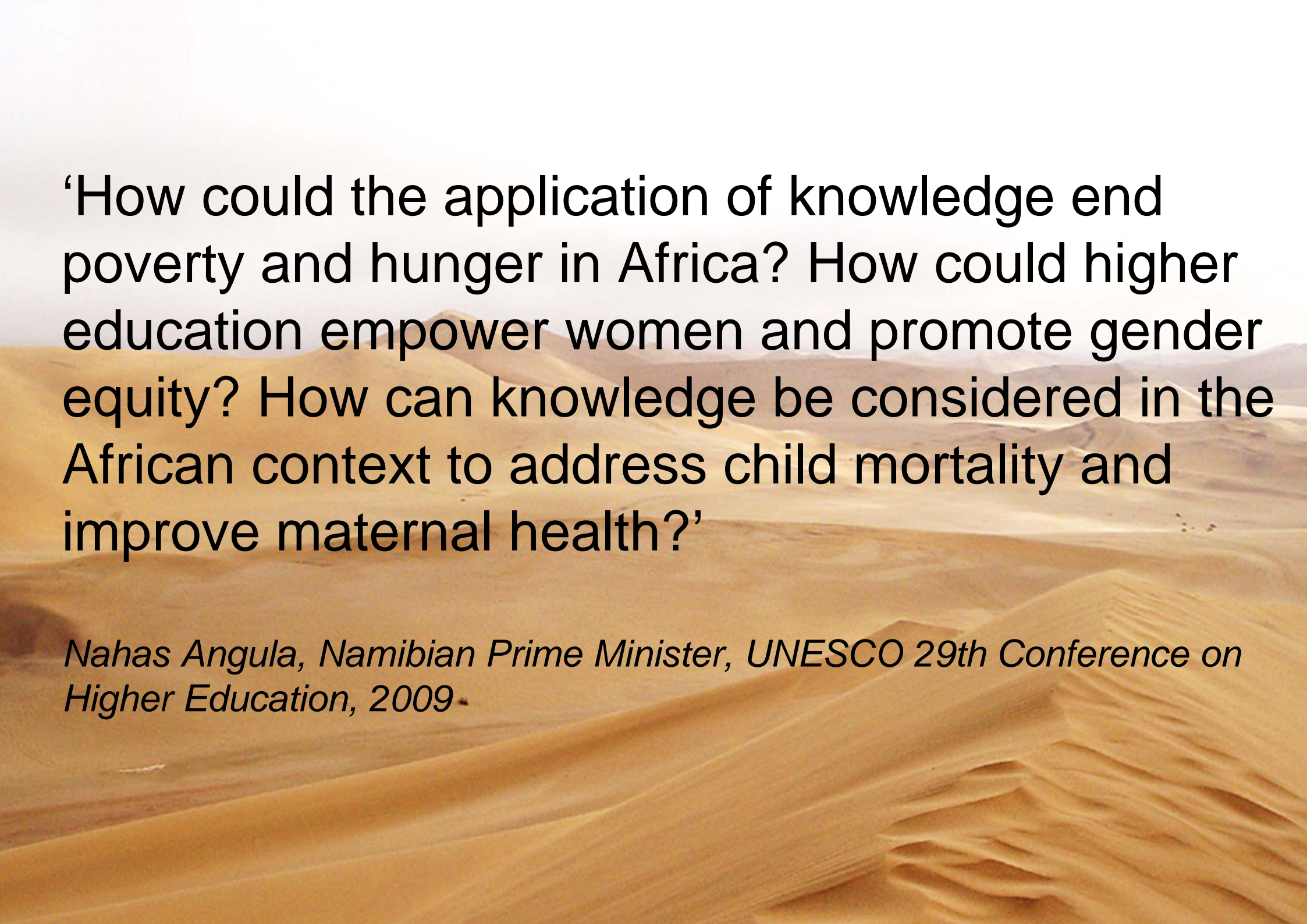


**at a digital
crossroads ...offering new
opportunities for easy,
fast, global knowledge
distribution**

in an African context in
which conventional scholarly
publishing is of marginal
viability



How can we leverage digital potential
and OA to deliver the wider
opportunities we seek?



‘How could the application of knowledge end poverty and hunger in Africa? How could higher education empower women and promote gender equity? How can knowledge be considered in the African context to address child mortality and improve maternal health?’

Nahas Angula, Namibian Prime Minister, UNESCO 29th Conference on Higher Education, 2009.

Our universities, in particular, should be directing their research focus to address the **development and social needs of our communities**. The impact of their research should be measured by how much difference it makes to the needs of our communities, rather than by just how many international citations researchers receive in their publications.

Blade Nzimande, Minister of Higher Education and Training, South Africa, at the UNESCO World Conference on Higher Education in 2010



Open access has the potential to open up research publication for wider development impact



and yet this does not seem
to be delivering the impact
the policymakers seek

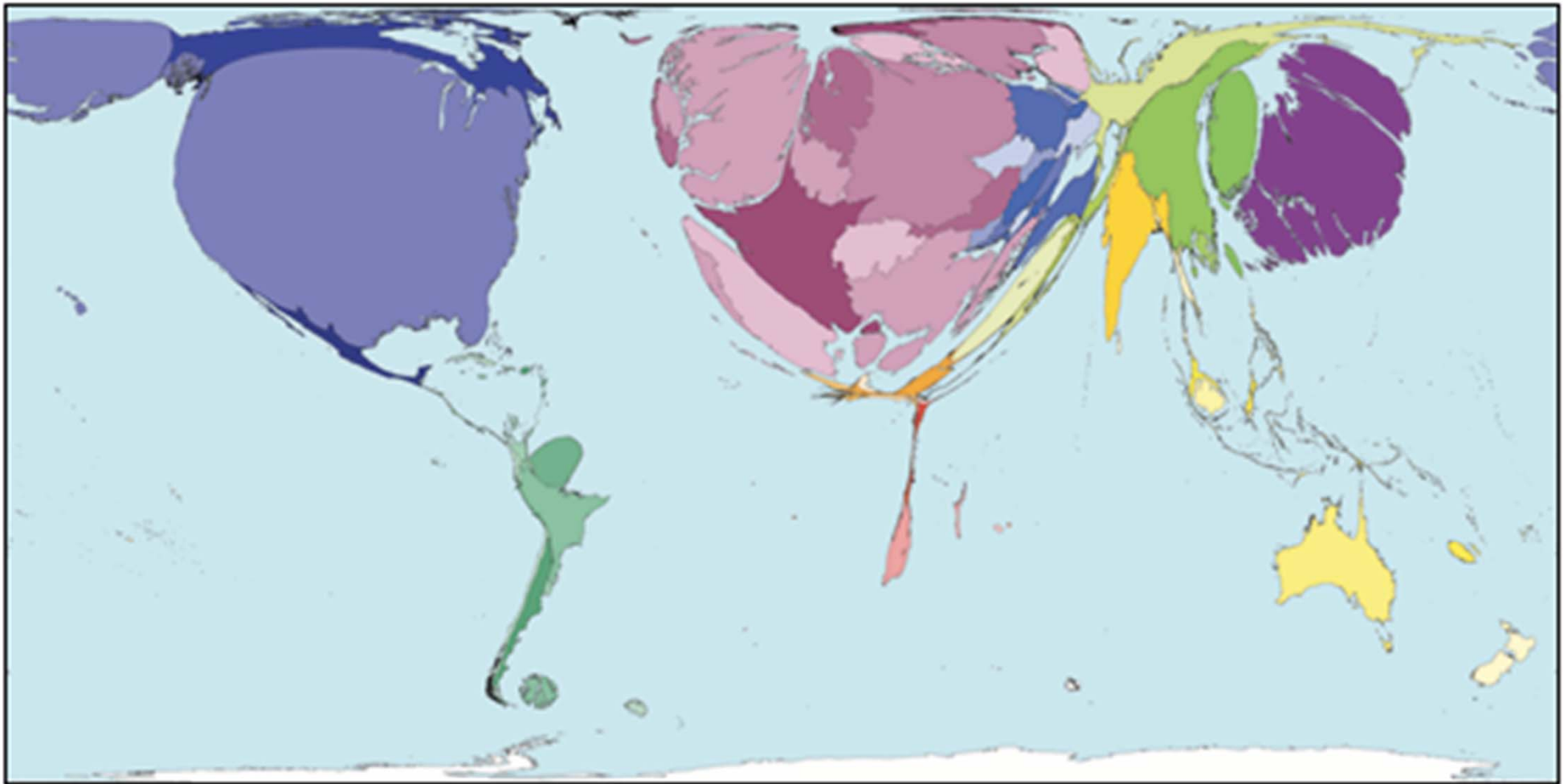


We live on a huge continent



but have a tiny share
of scientific output

Science Research - 2001



<http://www.worldmapper.org>

2006 SASI Group (University of Sheffield) and Mark Newman (University of Michigan).

but what do we mean by
'output'?

The dual mission of African universities

What the university wants is **profile in the ISI** and other indexes in the interests of enhancing its reputation and prestige. But the university must be relevant to its context in Botswana and in the region. It therefore needs a double pronged approach - **enhancing local relevance** and at the same time seeking to increase the quality of the journals and other outputs.

one kind of 'output'
dominates research
publishing policy ...

and one dominant
metric

ANCE

PRODUCTS A - Z

PRODUCTS & SERVICES

Pharmaceutical Business
Intelligence

Scientific Research

Intellectual Property

Products A - Z

MA KNOWLEDGE HUB

EARLY RESEARCH,
PUBLISHING AND ANALYSIS

PORT

ACT SCIENCE

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FERENCES & EVENTS

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en by the search for
anced prestige and
competitiveness



**‘green route’ repositories
make published articles
accessible**

but the quest for local
relevance remains at the
periphery

and 'the article' becomes
equated with 'scholarly
publication'

A perspective view of a tunnel, likely a subway or railway tunnel. The tracks are visible on the floor, receding into the distance. The walls are curved and have a ribbed texture. A bright light source is visible at the far end of the tunnel, creating a strong glow and casting long shadows. The overall atmosphere is dark and industrial.

The result of this
policy focus is
tunnel vision...

...which pays
attention to only a
small segment of the
publishing
ecosystem..

the tip of the iceberg
- formal publishing



international journal
companies dominate

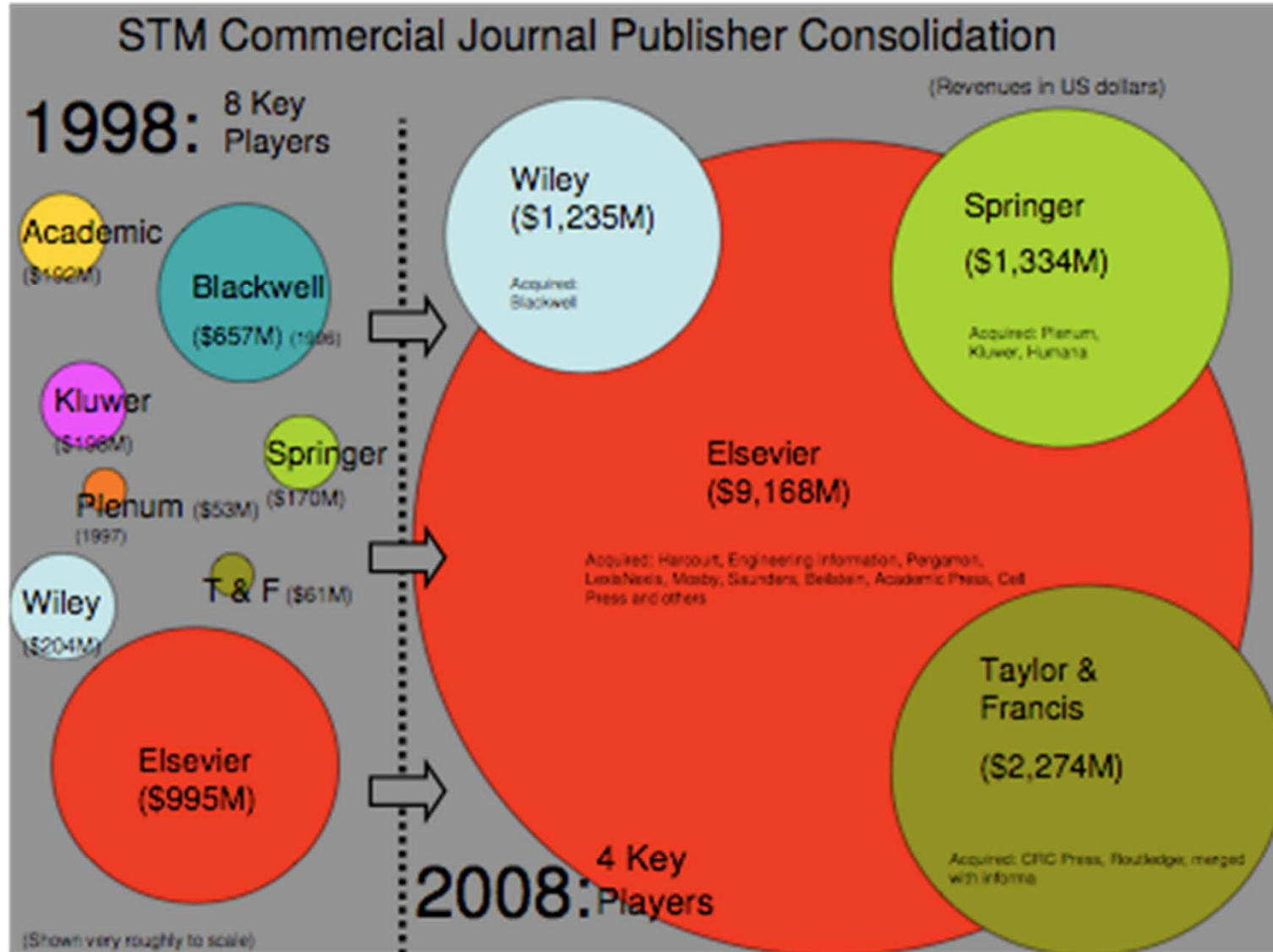


Figure 1. Since 1998, the scholarly publishing industry has greatly consolidated. Its major players are now multi-billion-dollar companies. Those that are publicly-held are legally obligated to turn profits and maximize their shareholders' value.

but mainstream publishers
are using OA material and
social media to transform
their offerings

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A note from the
Editor-in-Chief

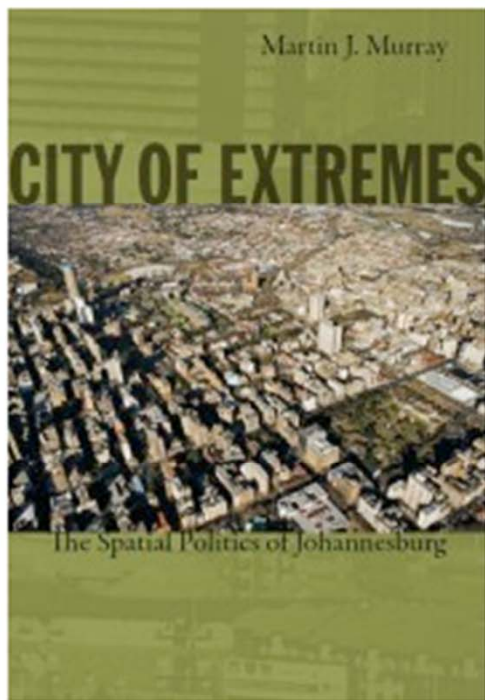
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university presses
constrained by a lingering
(but erroneous) belief that
university presses can be
profitable businesses

New and Noteworthy



CITY OF EXTREMES

City of Extremes is a powerful critique of urban development in greater Johannesburg since the end of apartheid in 1994. Martin J. Murray describes how a loose alliance of city-builders – including real estate developers, large-scale property owners, municipal officials, and security specialists – has sought to remake Johannesburg in the upbeat image of a “world-class” city. By creating new sites of sequestered luxury catering to the comfort, safety, and security of affluent urban reside ...

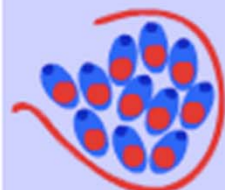
More about: [City of Extremes](#)

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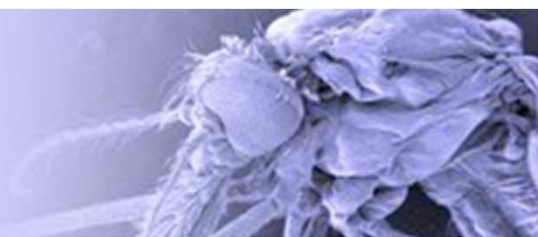
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but...

○ A journals are growing
and becoming mainstream



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Change of scientific and medical information can play an important role in national development.

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journal citation

SciELO The Scientific Electronic Library Online - SciELO South Africa is an electronic library covering a selected collection of South African scientific journals.

The library is an integral part of a project being developed by [FAPESP](#) - Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado de São Paulo in partnership with [BIREME](#) - the Latin American and Caribbean Center on Health Sciences Information. Since 2002, the Project is supported by [CNPq](#) - Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico.

The Project envisages the development of a common methodology for the preparation, storage, dissemination and evaluation of scientific literature in electronic format.

As the project develops, new journal titles are being added in the library collection.

OA scholarly presses
- the HSRC Press

Opening access to
quality social science

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Could open access online
scholarly book publishing
revive the publication of
serious long-form
scholarship?

public funding would be
needed

Below the waterline

informal, development-
focused policy

papers, research reports and
publications have been OA
for decades



Research Reports

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Status report on land and agricultural policy in South Africa, 2010 - Research Report 40 (RR40)

Author(s): Stephen Greenberg

Year: 2010

Status report on land and agricultural policy in South Africa, 2010. Stephen Greenberg. Research Report 40 (RR40)

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Mainstreaming of HIV and Aids into South African Fisheries Policy - Research Report 39 (RR39)

Author(s): Moenieba Isaacs, Mafaniso Hara

Year: 2008

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SALDRU Working Paper No.64

Title: The Policies for Reducing Income Inequality and Poverty in South Africa**Author:** Murray Leibbrandt, Eva Wegner, Arden Finn**Date of Publication:** September 2011**Date added:** 09/06/2011**Date modified:** 09/06/2011**Filesize:** 544.52 kB**Downloads:** 107**Abstract**

Trends in inequality, poverty, and redistribution in post-apartheid South Africa have received intense attention especially in terms of measuring inequality and poverty levels and the proximate causes of these levels. We review this literature and find a set of established trends. Inequality levels have increased but the face of inequality has changed with present-day inequality displaying lessened racial make-up than under apartheid. In contrast, poverty has decreased but is still bears the strong racial markers of apartheid. The labour market continues to drive inequality. A related literature has concentrated on fiscal redistribution in South Africa.

open data links to national
programmes

Welcome to DataFirst

DataFirst is a unit at the [University of Cape Town](#), South Africa devoted to survey research in Africa. The unit operates a Research Data Centre and provides basic and advanced training in microdata analysis. DataFirst is also an international web portal for South African census and survey data, as well as survey metadata and all research output based on this data. The unit aims to facilitate the collection, exchange and use of census and survey microdata on a collaborative basis in the African region, and build regional expertise in quantitative survey methodology and analysis.

Our Survey Data and Metadata Portal

The [DataFirst Survey Data Catalogue](#) enables online keyword searches of the survey data available from DataFirst. It also provides information to assist users of the data files (Metadata). Survey microdata and metadata files from public access datasets can be downloaded from this portal.

The [list of survey datasets](#) allows an overview of the data holdings of DataFirst and provides links to supporting documentation in the form of questionnaires, metadata files and survey reports, which can be downloaded from this site. Links to publications based on the data are also available here. This list will eventually be incorporated into the DataFirst Survey Data Catalogue.

DataFirst/SALDRU Data Quality Project

The Data Quality Project (DQP), funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has been running since 2006. The aim of the Project is to deepen the capacity of South African researchers to conduct top-quality research using survey data that is placed in the public domain by the government statistics agency, Statistics South Africa. This is accomplished through an intensive examination of the comparability and usability of these datasets, and liaison with the national data producer and data users to ensure appropriate analysis of this data. This website provides access to [Data Quality Project Output](#).

This includes research notes on anomalies in data

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Latest Datasets

HSRC's Social Attitudes Survey for 2003-2006. The survey was produced in 2010 is available in our data centre.

General Household Survey

Labour Force Survey
Quarters

NEWS

[Support Service for L](#)

[DataFirst participates in Digital Scholarship and Conference.](#)

[DataFirst/Saldru Conference](#)
RSVP deadline 21 S

‘translations’ of research for
community and national
development

UCT Social Responsiveness

ABOUT SR

ACTIVITIES

REGIONAL
COLLABORATION

PEOPLE

REPORTS

EVEN

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Activities

Education
Human Rights and
Social Justice
Culture and Heritage
Innovation
Environment
Health
Economic Development
Sustainable
Development

The information contained on this website is a compilation of in-depth qualitative studies of various forms of civic engagement between UCT staff and students and other communities. These studies are conducted and published as "portraits of practice" in annual reports, with a view to offering perspectives that cannot be accommodated in the format of a database.

Consequently, the website does not contain exhaustive information on all the many and varied forms of social responsiveness manifested at UCT, and, while we are now posting summaries as well as qualitative reports, this website should be viewed as work in progress.

Finally, activities have been posted under various categories, but the inter-disciplinary nature of the work means that they may not be found where expected. Users are therefore encouraged to browse.

Does 'grey literature'
need to be redefined
in a digital world?

Where this all comes
together...

radical new journal
models emerge



RESEARCH ARTICLE



Mapping Change in Large Networks

[Article](#)[Metrics](#)[Related Content](#)[Comments: 1](#)**Martin Rosvall^{1*}, Carl T. Bergstrom^{1,2}**

1 Department of Biology, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, United States of America, **2** Santa Fe Institute, Santa Fe, New Mexico, United States of America

Abstract [Top](#)

Change is a fundamental ingredient of interaction patterns in biology, technology, the economy, and science itself: Interactions within and between organisms change; transportation patterns by air, land, and sea all change; the global financial flow changes; and the frontiers of scientific research change. Networks and clustering methods have become important tools to comprehend instances of these large-scale

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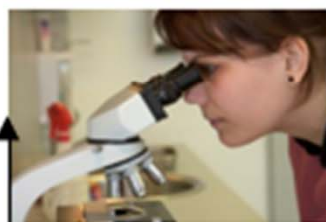
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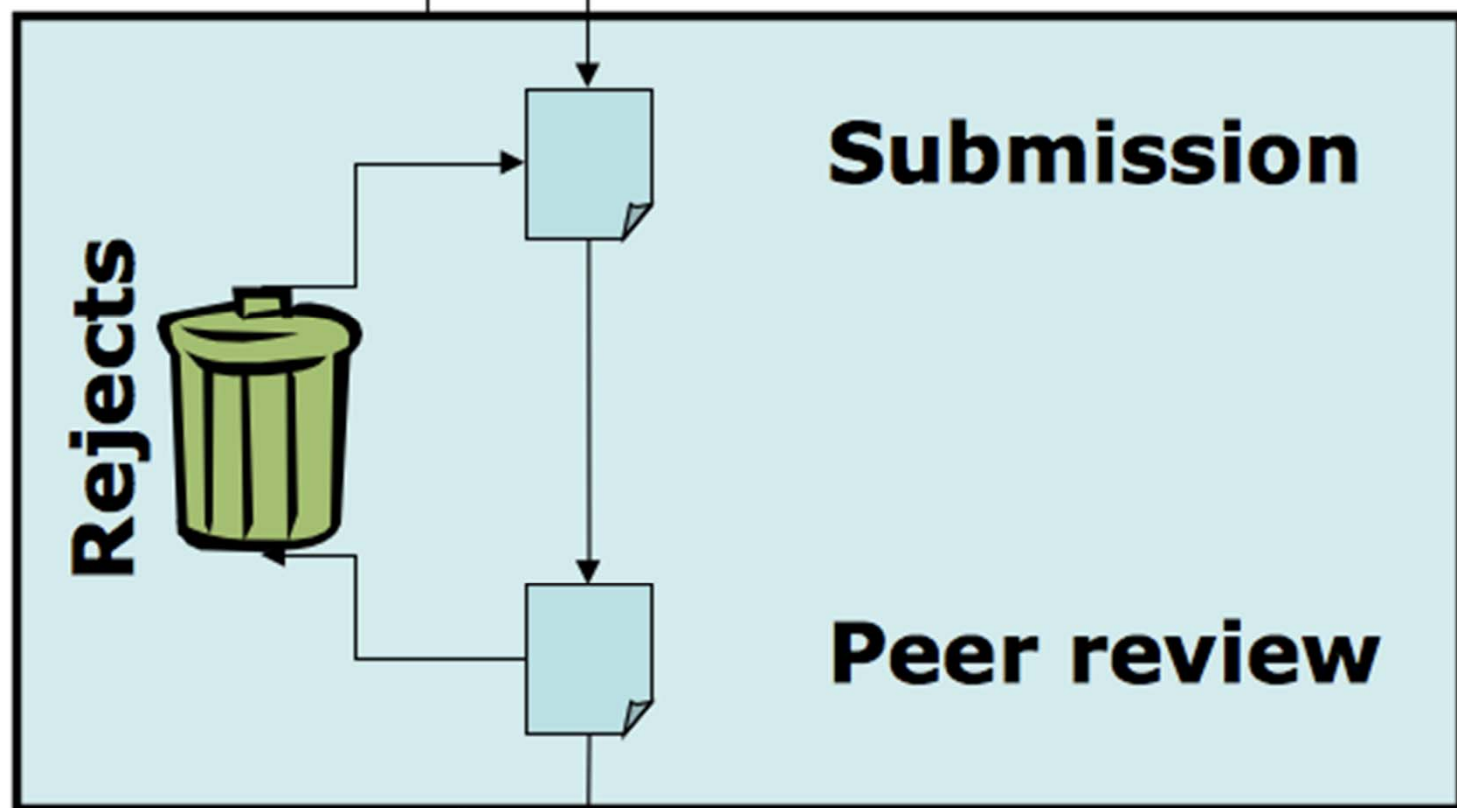
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**Journals are a giant
sorting mechanism**



Research

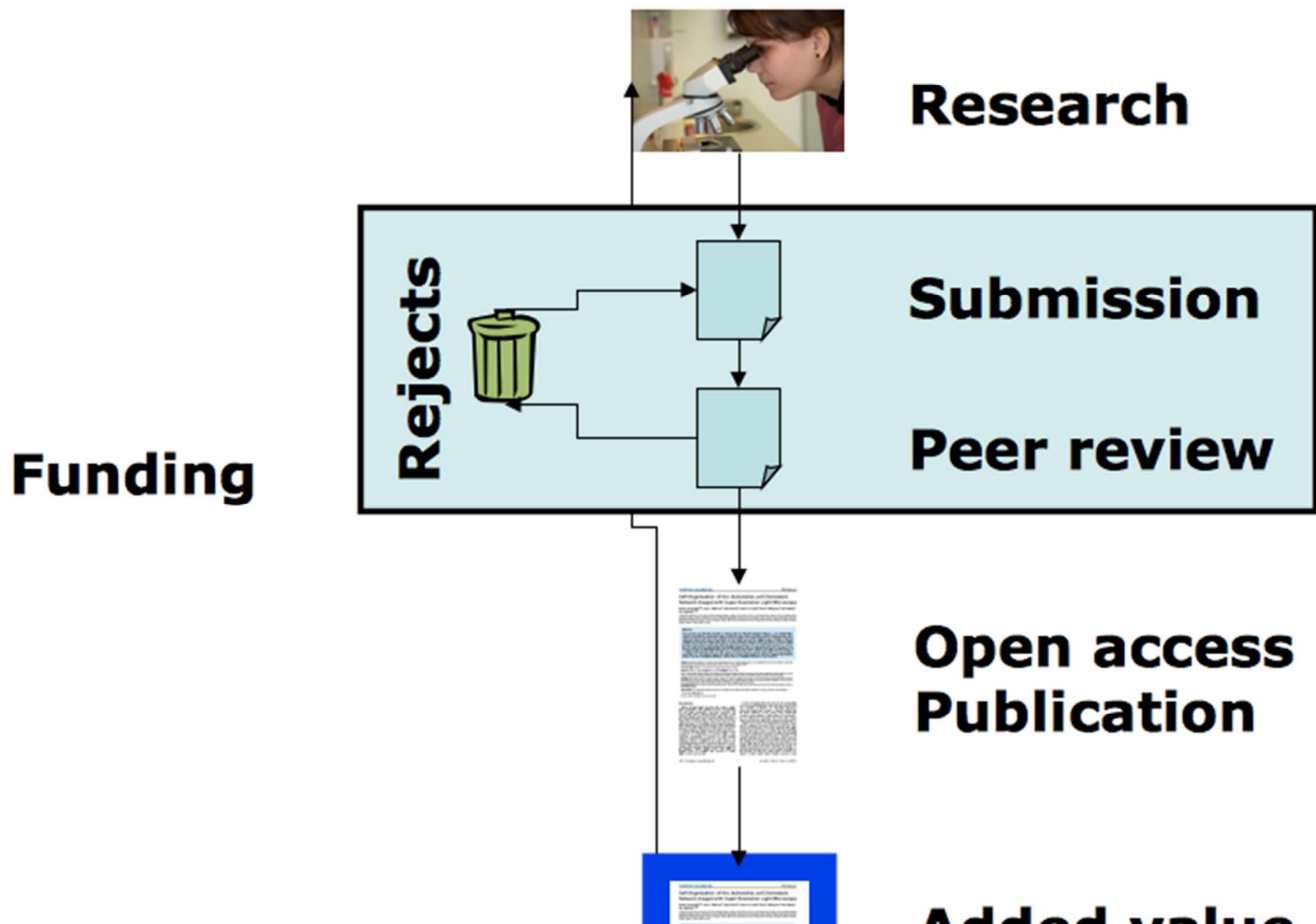


Funding



**Open Access
Publication**

communication



the journal article is
becoming part of the
research continuum

a 'hub' rather than a final
stand-alone outcome

and finally, new measures
are being developed to
evaluate a wider range of
scholarship

do we need to get on board
the 'altmetrics' bandwagon?

metrics

metrics: a manifesto

June 6, 2010

October 28, 2011: removed dash in alt-metrics

and everything. We rely on filters to make sense of the scholarly world. The narrow, traditional filters are being swamped. However, the online scholarly tools allow us to make new filters; these tools let us see the broad, rapid impact of scholarship in this burgeoning world. We call for more tools and research based on altmetrics.

As academic literature explodes, scholars rely on filters to select important and significant sources from the rest. Unfortunately, the three main filters for importance are failing:

Peer review has served us well, but is struggling to show its value. Citations, slow, noisy, and unreliable, and

MEDLINE-indexed articles published per year

1M
800k

workshop

[altmetrics11: Tracking scholarly impact on the social Web](#)

An ACM Web Science Conference 2011 Workshop

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Would it be in our interest to
leapfrog to the cutting edge
of the 21st century?



SCHOLARLY
COMMUNICATION



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